



Peace Brigades International

Promoting nonviolence and protecting
human rights since 1981

Annual Review 2005-6



"I've been very privileged to be accompanied by PBI... throughout the last two days I have had first hand experience of the kind of security their presence instils in those who work for the promotion and protection of human rights in the most dangerous circumstances"

Hina Jilani, UN Special Representative for Human Rights Defenders on a visit to Colombia

What does PBI do?

“Because of my work as a human rights activist I have been intimidated, terrorised, and detained. I had to be evacuated in a freight plane and even thought I would have to leave the country. Since PBI has protected me I feel a lot safer. I can work more self confidently and openly and don’t have to hide any more.”

Matius Murib, Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence (KontraS), Papua, Indonesia

PBI has been working to protect human rights and promote nonviolence for the past 25 years. On request, we send teams of international volunteers to areas of repression and conflict to provide a protective accompaniment to local human rights defenders whose lives and work are threatened by political violence. Our work is based on the principles of non-partisanship and non interference in the internal affairs of the organisations we accompany in the belief that lasting transformation of conflicts cannot be imposed from outside but must be based on the capacity of local people to build a genuine peace. The PBI model has proven that this external presence can deter violence and thus create greater space for local activists to carry out their work. In addition to accompaniment PBI also carries out peace education and psycho-social training with local organisations to strengthen their capacity for conflict transformation.

PBI has projects in Colombia, Indonesia, Guatemala, Mexico and Nepal. In addition, the Brussels European Office organises workshops on security and protection for human rights defenders principally in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Nepal and undertakes advocacy on human rights protection with the European institutions. PBI is a member of the SIPAZ coalition that works in Chiapas, Mexico.



Front cover photo: Hina Jilani, UN special representative for Human Rights Defenders, her assistant Chloe Vasinger, PBI staff member Emma Eastwood and Marcos Velasco, Communities for Self-determination, Life and Dignity (CAVIDA), Colombia at an event to celebrate the 10th anniversary of PBI’s work in Colombia.

All photos PBI except pages 3 and 14

PBI’s work in the field is complemented by 16 groups in North America, Europe and Australasia. responsible for building and activating political support for the projects, recruitment and training of volunteers, outreach, publicity and fundraising.

PBI International Council 2005/06

Sergi Bach (Mexico Project)

Laura Clarke (Colombia Project – resigned December 2005)

Joke Edenburg (PBI Germany, Netherlands from Oct 2006)

William Fairbairn (PBI Canada from July 2006)

Montserrat Garcia (Guatemala Project)

Celia Guilford (Indonesia Project)

Andrew Kendle (PBI UK, Sweden, Norway)

Christine Jones (PBI Canada, May–November 2005)

Steve Molnar (PBI USA)

Liam Mahony

Claudia Muller-Hoff (Colombia Project from February 2006)

Roger Nash

Eleanor Openshaw (PBI UK, Sweden, Norway – resigned July 2005)

Lin Padgham (PBI Australia – resigned July 2005)

Hans Sinn (PBI Canada – resigned March 2005)

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PBI is registered as a non profit corporation in the State of Washington, USA

Letter from PBI International Council

“The challenges faced by the global human rights movement are perhaps greater now than they have ever been in the past 50 years... Insofar as the so called ‘war on terror’ dominates international politics, there is a strong tendency by some governments to present human rights as an obstacle to security, and human rights activists at best as idealistic romantics or at worst as defenders of ‘terrorists.’

For Amnesty International, the work of PBI is fundamental to the promotion and protection of human rights in Colombia.”

Susan Lee, Director of the Americas programme, Amnesty International

Dear Friends,

Conflicts continue to erupt, and new requests for accompaniment arise all over the world. Over the past year we have invested energy and resources into strengthening our work so that we can more effectively protect those organisations we already accompany while at the same time expanding our work to new conflict areas in Nepal and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In June 2005, more than 50 delegates and observers representing 16 Country Groups, five Projects and the International Secretariat (ISec) participated in a successful General Assembly (GA) in London, UK. The GA approved a strategic plan that sets key directions for the organisation 2005–2011. In preparation for the GA, the International Council (IC) commissioned an external financial audit and evaluations of the projects and ISec.

Now in its 12th year, the Colombia Project is widely recognised as having made a very significant contribution to saving the lives of activists and strengthening civil society in one of Latin America’s most violent countries. The Indonesia Project returned

to tsunami-affected Aceh, and opened new teams in Papua, where they are implementing an innovative peace education programme in addition to protective accompaniment. In Guatemala, a team of eight volunteers continues to protect threatened civil society organisations in a situation of rising tension. Since 2001 the Mexico Project has been accompanying human rights and indigenous organisations in the isolated, highly militarised state of Guerrero where no other international organisations are working.

A significant development has been a greater emphasis on work with women’s groups and with organisations defending communities against the exploitation of natural resources by transnational corporations.

A total of 152 volunteers served on PBI field teams with many thousands more contributing worldwide through PBI’s 16 country groups, which support our field projects. Returning volunteers provide a substantial resource, bringing back valuable experience and inspiration.

The International Secretariat (ISec) with its London-based International Office, fulfilled a range of key functions: convening the worldwide organisation, involving constituencies in key decisions, quality assurance, policy development and governance. The ISec played a key role in monitoring and developing global financial systems.

We continue to draw inspiration from our belief in nonviolence and the courage of the human rights defenders and communities that we accompany whose spirit and commitment enables them to achieve the seemingly impossible.

In peace,

Steve Molnar

Steven Molnar

PBI President

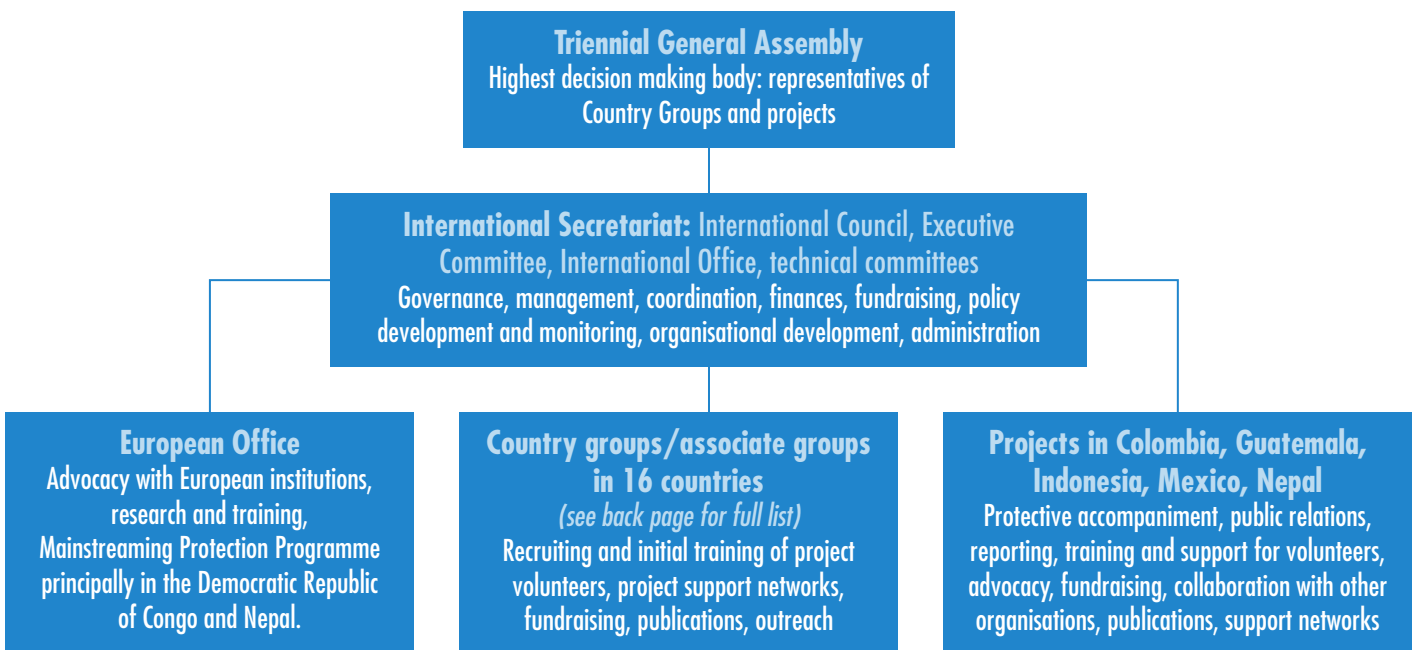
November 2006



Photo: Julien Menghini

PBI volunteers accompanying members of the Popular Women’s Organisation (OPF), Colombia. The OPF has been harassed and threatened because of their work with internally displaced women and children in Barrancabermeja.

PBI organisational structure



Note: The International Secretariat and projects form the global structure of PBI registered as a non-profit corporation in the State of Washington, USA. Country groups and Associate groups are independent bodies that determine their own structures and are legally responsible for their own actions.

Country groups

“Our aim is to persuade the potential violators of human rights and those authorities who have influence over them that the cost of human rights abuses will be unacceptably high.”

Liam Mahony, Side by Side

Multi-layered dissuasion

Systematic human rights abuses require the collaboration and collusion of players at different levels in lines of authority from local to national to international. PBI’s approach is unique, in that it is multi-layered and seeks to influence every point in this chain. The presence of international accompaniment volunteers would have a very limited protective effect if it was not backed up by an international infrastructure that adds weight to the deterrent effect of the volunteers in the field. PBI Country Groups play an essential role in building this infrastructure and ensuring that Support Networks are not only a deterrent but can act swiftly and effectively if human rights abuses occur.

Strengthening high-level contacts and support networks

- **In France**, PBI organised an event about human rights defenders in the French Senate with Amnesty

International and the Agir Association, which raised PBI’s profile at a high level.

- **In Switzerland**, PBI substantially increased the Support Network to 150 members including parliamentarians, academics, lawyers, church leaders and other dignitaries.
- **In the UK**, PBI expanded the Support Network to include 80 Members of the British and European parliaments and the House of Lords, academics and lawyers. Three of the UK’s key legal societies, the Law Society of England and Wales, the Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales and the International Bar Association also formally supported PBI’s work. The great respect for PBI in the British parliament was demonstrated by the fact that 86 MPs signed an Early Day Motion celebrating the Colombia Project’s 10th anniversary and pledging support for PBI.
- **In Spain**, at a seminar organised by PBI on the protection of civilians during and post armed conflict. José Antonio de Ory, director of the human rights office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, applauded PBI’s work ‘of saving lives, protecting, denouncing [human rights] abuses and highlighting them to the international community’ PBI Spain subsequently met with him to discuss the Spanish government’s priorities at the third session of the UN Human Rights Commission.

Raising the visibility and profile of human rights defenders and PBI

- **In France and the UK**, PBI organised speaker tours by Tita Radilla Martinez, Vice-President of the Association of Relatives of the Detained, Disappeared and Victims of Human Rights Abuses (AFADEM – see page 10), a Mexican organisation accompanied by PBI. This speaker tour provided a powerful testimony of the threats that human rights defenders face, and how PBI accompaniment contributes to making their work possible. The speaker tours resulted in stronger support networks and contacts with other NGOs and institutions, and a higher profile for PBI and AFADEM through media coverage.
- **In Canada**, PBI organised a speaker tour of a returned Colombia Project volunteer who spoke to over 600 people in ten cities. This achieved greater visibility for PBI among the general public and Canadian institutions and organisations, resulting in a substantial increase in financial and political support.
- **In Spain**, PBI organised public events throughout the country attended by over 1,000 people. For example, PBI Catalunya organised an exhibition against torture and other human rights violations entitled ‘Butchery, never again’ with sculptures by a well-known sculptor Mauro Corda. The event was launched by Bertrand Chevreux, president of the Foundation for the Development of Contemporary Art, the director of the Frederic Marès Museum and Paqui Ocón, PBI. For six weeks PBI materials were distributed along with exhibition catalogues (the proceeds were donated to PBI) and the event was covered in newspaper and magazine articles and on television.

PBI in the media

- **In France**, a documentary on PBI’s work in Colombia was broadcast on one of France’s main television channels. This raised our profile considerably and resulted in numerous calls to PBI France from people wanting to get involved.

Participation in wider forums

- **In the UK**, PBI played an active role in advocacy and coordination groups, such as the British and Irish Agencies working in Colombia (ABC Group), the Brussels-based International Office on Human Rights Action Colombia (OIDHACO), the European lobbying group Copenhagen Initiative for Central America (CIFCA) and the UK information-sharing group, Indonesia Forum.
- **In Italy**, PBI participated in discussions on promoting a law to establish a civilian peace service.
- **In Germany**, PBI participated in a pilot project ‘International volunteer services for people of different ages’ run by the Ministry of the Family. This project aimed to get more older people involved in volunteering so that people of different ages can learn from each other. Participating in the programme enabled PBI Germany to exchange ideas with other organisations involved in volunteer services.

Strengthening volunteer support

- **In Germany**, PBI established a comprehensive programme of volunteer support from the first contact to the return of volunteers from field work. This included publishing a manual and employing a staff person responsible for volunteer support.
- **In the USA**, PBI set up a support network for new volunteers to provide support before, during and after their field service. Each new volunteer is matched with an experienced former PBI field volunteer who serves as a listener and mentor when challenges and emotional difficulties arise. Mentors participated in a three-day skills training workshop to prepare them for their role.

Investing in PBI volunteers of the future

- **In Germany**, PBI set up a peace and human rights education programme (2006–2008) for 15–18 year olds in 6 Hamburg schools. Feedback from both teachers and pupils has been positive and PBI Germany has plans to expand the programme to other places.

Strengthening public relations and fundraising

- **In the Netherlands**, PBI worked with other organisations to lobby the Dutch government on Nepal, Indonesia and Colombia. This was important for organisational recognition leading to greater credibility, strengthened fundraising and increased political leverage of our support network.

Supporting the development of new projects

- **In Germany, USA, UK and Switzerland**, PBI country groups provided financial and staff support to help launch the new Nepal Project.

Influencing policy development and international debates

- PBI participated in European consultations and attended the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict conference in New York.
- The Brussels–European Office and the Colombia project contributed to an evaluation of the implementation of EU guidelines on Human Rights Defenders (2004) drawing on PBI’s experience in Colombia and the DRC.

Strengthening internal structures and capacities

- In February 2006, the International Council approved an operational plan for the International Secretariat focused on the three key areas identified by the General Assembly as being of highest priority: strengthening fundraising and financial management and the international structures of PBI. In line with these objectives, international structures were strengthened including the International Council, Executive Committee, and the International Finance and Fundraising Committees.

Colombia

“I’ve been very privileged to be accompanied by PBI... throughout the last two days I have had first-hand experience of the kind of security their presence instills in those who work for the promotion and protection of human rights in the most dangerous circumstances. As a human rights defender myself I’m well aware of the risks that defenders face... Accompaniment does not just mean protection, it means support to be able to continue the work that we do.”

Hina Jilani, UN Special Representative for Human Rights Defenders

Context

Four decades of civil war have left Colombia with more than three million internally displaced people. Illegally armed paramilitary and guerrilla groups carry out most human rights violations, but government forces are also often implicated.

Despite negotiations between government and paramilitaries, massacres, death threats, kidnappings, disappearances, and torture continue. Particularly vulnerable are lawyers, indigenous communities, Afro-Colombians, trades unionists, journalists, and peasant farmers.

Those committing violence continue to enjoy impunity. Attacks against human rights defenders are if anything legitimised by government officials, who accuse them of being ‘terrorist sympathisers’. There have been more smear campaigns and legal cases against organisations carrying out legitimate human rights work.

The ‘Justice and Peace Law’ (Law 975, 2005) has been strongly criticised by Colombian human rights organisations and the Office of the UN Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR) for not meeting international standards for victim’s rights.

Project infrastructure

32 international volunteers in Urabá, Barrancabermeja, Medellín, and Bogotá. 16 paid staff in Belgium, Spain, US and Colombia.

Key achievements

- Completed a 2005–2008 strategic plan focusing on ensuring the coherence and sustainability of our work. Key thematic areas: the struggle against impunity, awareness raising of human rights violations related to economic interests and strengthening alternative local organisational and resistance processes. In line with this, we took on accompanying: the Lawyers’ Collective Carlos Luis Pérez (CACLP), Barcaranmanga.

- Successfully managed a complex restructuring to ensure financial stability without cutting back on accompaniment. Seven staff posts were moved from Europe to Colombia to locate some aspects of our work closer to the local context.
- Broadened cultural diversity with the inclusion of volunteers from Peru, Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina.
- Strengthened Support Networks in Europe through raising awareness of PBI and the organisations we accompany in the institutions of the UN, European Union, trade unions, parliaments and academic centres. Consequently, there were more and better debates in the European Parliament on Colombia, and more questions raised with the European Commission.
- Our information on the effects of the political situation in Colombia on human rights defenders is an important reference point in EU and UN institutions.
- Made a major contribution to the massive international support for ending impunity after the massacre of eight members of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community. Subsequently, the US State Department declared that US military aid under Plan Colombia would not be given to the XVII Brigade of the Colombian Army in the Urabá region, until allegations of human rights violations had been resolved. See case study page 16.
- Played a significant role in calling international attention to the paramilitary assassination of Orlando Valencia, a leader of Afro-Colombian communities

“PBI has helped us to maintain our work, especially in investigating key cases involving alleged abuses by the military or paramilitary in regions where, because of security risks, we would otherwise have been unable to travel.”

*Dr Reynaldo Villalba Vargas,
Lawyers’ Collective José Alvear Restrepo*



Protecting Afro-Colombian communities, Urabá

PBI accompanies the Justice and Peace Commission in their visits to Afro-Colombian communities along the Atrato River. The communities have returned to their lands, to which they have titles, but suffer constant harassment including death threats because of their resistance to large-scale African palm plantations. In Cacarica, PBI has a hut where volunteers stay for several days on rotation. They stay abreast of local political developments. Satellite phones are used to immediately alert the rest of PBI about any potential attack. If appropriate, the teams in Urabá and Bogotá then contact local police and military commanders, and diplomats, to exert pressure on the perpetrators.

Examples of protective accompaniment

- Accompaniment of women from the Grass roots Women's Organisation (OFP) in Ciudad Bolívar in Bogotá, an 'informal settlement' of one million inhabitants, many displaced from other areas. OFP faced threats in their work of setting up canteens, organising workshops and women's committees and denouncing abuses of young people by armed gangs and the police.
- 48 accompaniments were carried out outside Bogotá, in particular in Arauca, Cauca and Valle de Cauca. These trips were undertaken only after a thorough risk assessment and extensive contacts with local authorities to ensure the visibility of PBI and the accompanied organisation.

As part of our protective accompaniment, the Project held 88 meetings with government officials, 148 with members of the security forces and 160 with the diplomatic corps, the UN and the EU. In these meetings we raised concerns about the human rights situation and the organisations we accompany. to ensure our visibility and to pressure authorities to fulfil international obligations to protect human rights defenders. We were also active in national and international coordination

bodies, establishing joint strategies to protect threatened organisations and communities.

Our psycho-social support team carried out 11 workshops with Colombian NGOs on political analysis, protection and security and psycho-social tools. This team also provided mental health support for PBI volunteers.

PBI has contributed to enabling the following 11 NGOs and two communities of displaced people to carry out their work:

Association for the Promotion of Social Alternatives (MINGA):

Human rights promotion & protection with displaced communities.

Association of Families of the Detained and Disappeared (ASFADDES): human rights promotion & protection with families of the disappeared.

Committee for the Defence of Human Rights (CREDHOS): Human rights protection & promotion, Magdalena Medio

Committee in Solidarity with Political Prisoners (CSPP): Advice and legal defence of human rights of prisoners from social organisations and political prisoners.

Corporación Jurídica Libertad (CJL):

Defence of people persecuted for their political activities and participation in grass roots organisations in Antioquia.

Inter-congregational Commission for Justice and Peace (CIJP):

Human rights promotion & protection with displaced communities.

Lawyers Collective Carlos Luis Perez (CACLP),

Barcaranmanga: Legal advice for victims of human rights abuses associated with forced displacement

Lawyers Collective 'José Alvear Restrepo' (CAJAR):

Legal defence of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights

Peace Community of San José de Apartadó & Communities for Self determination, Life & Dignity (CAVIDA), Cacarica River Valley:

Declaration of neutrality and nonviolence in a conflict zone.

Popular Training Institute (IPC), Medellin:

Human rights research, training and documentation. Antioquia

Popular Women's Organisation (OFP):

Human rights of internally displaced women and young people

Research and Popular Education Centre (CINEP): Human rights research on social conflict, violence and internal displacement.

Ivan Cepeda & Claudia Girón (Manuel Zepeda Foundation): Fight against impunity relating to persecution of Unión Patriótica and other violations

Berenice Celeyta (NOMADESC): Human rights capacity building & advice for trade unions, Valle del Cauca

Indonesia

“Because of my work as a human rights activist, I have been intimidated, terrorised and detained. I had to be evacuated in a freight plane and even thought I would have to leave the country. Since PBI protects me, I feel a lot safer. I can work more confidently and openly, I don’t have to hide anymore.”

Matius Murib, KontraS Papua

Context

In August 2005, nine months on from the tsunami that killed 160,000 people, the government and the Acehese Separatist Movement (GAM) signed an accord bringing a potential end to a 30-year conflict that claimed 15,000 lives. Local and international NGOs and the Aceh EU and ASEAN monitoring teams have reported a substantial improvement in security.

However, outbreaks of violence persisted in other provinces such as skirmishes between Muslims and Christians in Sulawesi and Maluku and the Bali bombing. The controversial special autonomy law and heightened military presence resulted in political tension and conflict in Papua where the activities of civil society organisations are severely curtailed by intimidation from the Indonesian security forces.

The government-ratified international covenants on Civil and Political Rights and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, are a significant step forward, though questions remain about whether the judicial system will uphold them.

Infrastructure

19 volunteers in Jakarta, Aceh, and Wamena and Jayapura, Papua, four paid staff in Indonesia and one in Canada, 26 volunteers on the Project Committee and subcommittees.



27 Flower Aceh counselors and community organisers attended a workshop to establish local trainers skilled in peace-building, gender issues, and nonviolent conflict transformation who could apply these skills within their communities.

Key achievements

- Established two new sub-teams in Papua and started accompaniment of four new organisations, Friends of the Earth Indonesia (WALHI), Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association (PBHI), Human Rights and Legal Aid Post (PB-HAM), and KontraS Papua.
- Increased volunteer diversity: in addition to Europe and North America, volunteers came from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Japan, India and the Philippines.
- Civil society organisations in Wamena and Jayapura, Papua, testified to the effectiveness of our accompaniment by stating that our presence had reduced tensions and allowed them to carry out their work.
- EU and ASEAN monitors (AAM) of the Aceh peace process stated that PBI is very effective in the way it supports the peace process.
- Strengthened national and local contact with Indonesian government authorities including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the National Police. This helped us to secure foundation status in Indonesia as well as strengthening the protection we provide
- Expanded the Participatory Peace Education Programme at the request of local organisations as a key work area. Four volunteers and one staff member are dedicated to this area.
- Strengthened support for women’s organisations through peace education and discussion forums on the empowerment of women.

Protective presence

Our improved contact with Indonesian government and security authorities in Jakarta, Aceh and Papua was crucial to enabling the Aceh and Papua teams to work effectively, including alerting authorities about security incidents affecting the organisations we accompany. Accompaniment consisted of regular meetings, phone calls to monitor the security situation and physical accompaniment at demonstrations and court cases. WALHI and PBHI reported that police awareness of their connection with an international organisation gave them heightened security, and that threats against them decreased significantly during and following the accompaniment.

Case study: Accompaniment of Abepura trial, Makassar

In December 2000, police raided the homes of students and other residents after an attack on a police station in Abepura, Jayapura. Seven people were killed and a further 100 injured. Two senior police officers were charged with gross human rights violations. LBH Papua (Legal Aid Foundation Papua), and PBHI, members of the NGO coalition representing the victims, feared intimidation of witnesses and requested PBI accompaniment. Maya, PBHI commented: "The presence of PBI at the human rights trial gave us the feeling of security and moral support. For us, and especially for the victims of torture, PBI's presence reminded us that the international community had not forgotten us." Both defendants were acquitted on the grounds that their crimes were not human rights violations according to law. Human rights organisations expressed serious concerns about this precedent and the case has been referred to the Supreme Court.

In addition to accompanying witnesses at the trial, PBI observed a demonstration of 1000 people protesting against the verdict, and a subsequent event to launch a book and video about the case attended by 600 people.

involving women in the peace process, traditional peace-building, the role of Islam in the Aceh peace process, and domestic violence. Feedback from participants has been positive and the number of participants and facilitators has steadily grown.

'This discussion can bring us together to think about the importance of... traditions and how they can be used and respected and how problems can be solved with traditional laws...'

Ibu Mientje, student

In addition, we have established libraries with locally appropriate reference materials for adults and children to increase knowledge and skills of peace building. The number of users has steadily increased, and feedback has been positive.

PBI's protective presence and peace education programmes contributes to enabling the following organisations to carry out their work:

Alliance for Democracy for Papua (ALDP):
Democracy & justice advocacy, political education and research.

Coalition of Human Rights Organisations (Koalisi NGO HAM): NGO human rights network, advocacy through data collection, campaigning & legal assistance.

Commission for Disappearances and Victims of Violence (KontraS Papua):
Campaigning & advocacy, facilitation of dialogue.

Flower Aceh:
Financial support for village women, legal aid and prenatal care.

Friends of the Earth Indonesia (WALHI):
436 member organisations, environmental sustainability & social transformation.

Human Rights and Legal Aid Post (PB-HAM):
Human rights research & documentation

Human Rights Monitoring Association (PPHAM):
human rights data collection.

Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association (PBHI):
Human rights promotion & protection, advocacy for victims of violations.

Legal Aid Foundation (LBH):
Civil rights and legal advocacy.

Legal Aid Foundation (LBH Papua):
Community legal aid & advocacy

Legal Aid Organisation for Women's Rights and Justice in Indonesia (LBH APIK):
Empowerment of women.

Office for the empowerment of women (KPP):
Supports women and children.

Women's Volunteer Team for Humanity (RPuK):
Support for women and children in camps for the internally displaced.

Participatory Peace Education (PPE)

Responding to requests from local organisations, we expanded the PPE programme through working with local organisations on capacity building for nonviolent conflict transformation. The workshops were facilitated by our peace education team made up of Indonesians and internationals. Workshop participants included religious organisations, traditional leaders, women's groups, human rights lawyers, local humanitarian organisations, students and university lecturers. Each workshop, co-facilitated with a local organisation, involves a thorough assessment of local needs and existing peace-building activities, and open meetings to explain the programme. Workshops are followed up with local organisations.

Sulawesi: Training for Trainers was carried out with FORLOG (Forum Dialogue) with 23 representatives of Hindu, Protestant, Muslim, Catholic and Buddhist communities, most of whom had never met before. Follow-up six months later confirmed the impact the workshops had on local peace-building networks. Future workshops will be carried out by FORLOG without PBI involvement.

Papua: 20 participants from the Institution of Papua's Village Custom Preserver (LPDAP) and the Community Association of Non-Papuan attended a workshop to strengthen intercultural and interfaith peace-building.

Peace discussion forums and resource libraries in Aceh and Papua

Responding to local requests, PBI coordinated monthly discussions bringing together women's groups, religious and traditional leaders, academics, NGOs and local authorities. Topics included: building a culture of peace,

Mexico

“Without PBI accompaniment, it would have been much more difficult to fulfil all we have achieved in securing the release of political prisoners and prisoners of conscience. Since 14 February 2002, because you have accompanied us, death threats and intimidations by the Mexican State have decreased in intensity. We send you our gratitude and recognition of your work in defence of human rights defenders.”

Francisco Cerezo Contreras, Cerezo Committee

In the State of Guerrero, where PBI is the only international organisation with a permanent presence, our impact is very great. Our role is effective, not only in protecting human rights defenders, but also in providing legitimacy and moral support to organisations and activists who suffer constant defamation campaigns by the authorities. Our presence is particularly important in a country where human rights defenders are often branded as defenders of “criminals” or accused of belonging to or supporting guerrilla movements.

Context

Although the Fox administration made advances in human rights protection through the ratification of

international treaties, these actions have not translated into actual improvements. The government’s National Human Rights Programme (PNDH) has failed to meet the expectations of human rights organisations, and key recommendations of the UNHCHR 2003 report have not been implemented.

Mexican human rights defenders continue to face threats, intimidation, arbitrary detentions, surveillance, physical attacks, torture, extra-judicial killings, forced disappearances, and the denial of due process. Basic protection of human rights is severely undermined by a weak, obsolete criminal justice system, militarisation of security and a high level of impunity for those who commit human rights abuses. Indigenous communities are

Case study: PBI accompaniment of AFADEM

PBI: *What is AFADEM?*

AFADEM: AFADEM is a human rights NGO with 50 members, which works in the State of Guerrero and in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua. We collaborate with other national and international human rights organisations, such as the Mexican Commission for Human Rights and the Organisation of Campesinos of the Southern Sierra. Internationally we are affiliated with FEDEFAM (Latin American Association of Families of the Detained and Disappeared), the International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH) and the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT).

PBI: *What does AFADEM do?*

AFADEM has been involved in 50 cases of disappearances and has accompanied an additional 123 cases. Together with students from the Autonomous University of Mexico, we are working on a memory project interviewing family members of the disappeared and documenting their experiences of the ‘Dirty War’. We also have an informal resource centre, where local people, particularly women, seek information about various municipal and state services.

PBI: *What threats do you face in carrying out your work?*

AFADEM: Obstacles include harassment, surveillance, and defamation of our members.

PBI: *What has AFADEM achieved?*

- After two years of lobbying by human rights organisations, the State of Guerrero has approved a law to prevent and punish the forced disappearance of individuals.
- The case of Rosendo Radilla has been admitted by the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights (CIDH).
- Some individuals who had disappeared have recently been released.
- Clandestine graves in Atoyac have been exhumed.
- The organisation has gained International recognition and the opportunity to travel (for example, the speaker tour to Europe facilitated by PBI) in order to talk about the situation in Guerrero.

PBI: *What difference has PBI’S presence made?*

AFADEM: PBI provides us with strong support. Before your accompaniment we were very fearful about carrying out our work and there were many difficulties with the authorities. Accompaniment helps us to work with greater security and confidence. International opinion is important to our government and for this reason when we are accompanied by an international organisation, they have to be more careful with us. There isn’t so much harassment and surveillance by military intelligence. For the families, if they know foreigners are accompanying them above all, it boosts their confidence and gives them greater peace of mind. In general accompaniment has greatly facilitated our work.



Tita Radilla and members of AFADEM demonstrating against the closure of the Government Office of the Special Prosecutor for Past Social and Political Movements (FEMOSPP) and demanding that the Mexican government fulfill its promise to investigate and solve past human rights abuses. Despite FEMOSPP's few successes, it was at least reviewing 200 cases of forced disappearances and torture.

particularly vulnerable in areas where large infrastructure projects put their land and natural resources at risk.

Infrastructure

7 volunteers, 2 staff based in the US, 10 volunteers serving on committees

Key achievements

- Expanded our work in defence of the rights of indigenous organisations through taking on two new accompaniments with OMESP and OPIM – see box.
- Increased our presence in isolated and highly militarised areas of the state of Guerrero.
- 2005 was an election year in the state of Guerrero, and in 2006 there were federal elections. Despite these changes, through intense and consistent advocacy, our field team has been able to maintain contacts in all key institutions at national and state level.
- Developed a 3-year strategic plan which aims to expand activities within Mexico and internationally, to incorporate a thematic approach to our work and to improve our capacity to respond more effectively to petitions for accompaniment, including developing new, flexible forms of accompaniment
- We were unable to respond for financial reasons to numerous requests from human rights organisations for a PBI presence in Oaxaca. However, with support from the Brussels–European Office (BEO), we held security workshops for human rights defenders and at the same time contracted two experts to conduct a research study.

- Strengthened volunteer support through contracting a psychologist with expertise in conflict management and stress. This better equips the volunteers to deal with challenging situations, and to communicate more effectively with each other and with the organisations they accompany.

PBI's presence has helped the following organisations to carry out their work:

Centre for Human Rights de la Montaña "Tlachinollan", Ayutla de los Libres: Legal defence of cases of the Naua, Na'Saavi, Me'Phaa and Mestizo communities of the "La Montaña," Guerrero.

Emiliana and Francisco Cerezo Contreras, members of the Cerezo Committee, Mexico City: Support for prisoners of conscience and political prisoners.

José Maria Morelos y Pavón" Regional Human Rights Centre, Chilapa de Alvarez, Guerrero: Workshops in indigenous communities.

Organisation of Women Ecologists of the Sierra de Petatlan (OMESP), Petatlán, Guerrero: Environmental protection.

Organisation of the Indigenous People Me'Phaa (OPIM), Ayutla de los Libres: Indigenous rights.

Tita Radilla Martinez, AFADEM (Association of Relatives of the Detained, Disappeared and Victims of Human Rights Abuses), Atoyac de Alvarez: Investigation, documentation and denunciation of forced disappearances during Mexico's "Dirty War" during the '70s and '80s.

Guatemala

Case study: Support Network Activation



PBI volunteer Helen Woodcock accompanying Dominga Vasquez

Mayor of the Sololá Indigenous Community, Dominga Vásquez, and Carlos Guarquez of Maya Foundation (FUNDAMAYA)

The mayor of Sololá is elected by the Mayan communities and is responsible for defending language and customs including campaigning against mining operations. PBI began accompanying Dominga in February 2005 because of the threats that she faced. On March 25, in El Tablón, unknown people set fire to the car used by Carlos Guárquez. Flyers were found with death threats against Carlos, Mayor Vásquez and her husband, Alfonso Guárque, stating "Tomorrow will be the day you vanish from this world for getting involved in foolish activities." PBI immediately increased protective accompaniment and activated Support Network contacts within Guatemala to put pressure on the relevant authorities to ensure the safety of Dominga, Carlos and Alfonso.

This included meetings with: the governor of the Department of Sololá, substation Chief of Police, Vice-Minister of Community Support of the Ministry of the Interior, the representatives of COPREDEH, and Human Rights Ombudsperson (PDH) Sololá, Labour Attaché of the US Embassy, Consul for Politics, Economy and Culture of the Canadian Embassy, representatives of the Swiss and Swedish embassies, and the Swedish International Cooperation Agency for Development (ASDI). The response of the Guatemala authorities and the diplomatic corps complemented by PBI accompaniment was positive, the potential attack was prevented and Dominga and Carlos were able to continue their work.

Context

The Presidential Coordination Commission for Human Rights Policy cited advances in the protection of human rights by the government of President Oscar Berger. It also acknowledged the gravity of abuses and the inadequacy of measures taken. The perpetrators of the abuses are presumed to be "members of illegal groups and clandestine security organisations (...) which form a power parallel to the state."

Attacks on human rights defenders continued to be alarmingly numerous. From January to October, the National Human Rights Movement (MNDH) reported 214 attacks, 26 involving raids on offices and information theft. There was a significant increase in attacks against those defending economic, social and cultural rights, primarily peasant farmers, trade unionists, development organisations, environmentalists and

indigenous organisations. More women have been murdered; 624 compared with 527 in 2004. Social organisations protesting against the signing of the US–Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) were severely harassed.

Key achievements

- Our 2004 external evaluation and strategic plan defined priority areas of work as accompanying organisations working on impunity, access to land and the impact of globalisation on human rights. In line with this decision we intensified accompaniment of organisations and communities affected by transnational companies exploiting natural resources.
- Increased field volunteers from 7 to 9 and started accompanying five new organisations: the indigenous people's mayor of Sololá the Maya Foundation

(FUNDAMAYA), the Verapaz Union of Campesino Organisations (UVOC), two unions affiliated with FESTRAS and UNSITRAGUA, and the Campesino Workers Movement (MTC).

- Participated actively on policy relating to protecting human rights defenders, particularly in institutions of the European Union. Through involvement in the Copenhagen Initiative for Central America (CIFCA), we helped to initiate a resolution in the European Parliament on human rights in Guatemala that was approved in July 2005.
- Expanded and reinforced support networks in Europe and North America in collaboration with PBI country groups through meeting and providing information to EU and UN. We also organised (with Spanish NGO Entrepueblos) a speaker tour in Europe by a representative of the Legal Action Centre for Human Rights (CHRLA) and participated in the Canadian-based Americas Policy Group (APG).
- Strengthened volunteer training and support through improvements in the training manual and the field orientation of volunteers and by building contacts with Guatemalan psychiatrists and psychologists who can provide support to team members.

Areas of work

Our accompaniment supported social processes including “recovery of historical memory;” reparation claims, dignity for the victims of the armed conflict; the struggle against repression of human rights defenders; protection of the environment; labour rights, and access to land for rural and marginalised urban communities.

Examples of accompaniment and international presence

- Accompaniment of people who are directly threatened, either for their leadership role or because of their circumstances. For example, we accompanied Eloyda Mejía Samayoa, legal representative of the Friends of Lake Izabal Association, who received threats after she filed a complaint with the Public Ministry (MP) and the Human Rights Ombudsman’s Office (PDH) about the damage caused by mining operations. We accompanied her from home to work and when she traveled. Carlos Morales, director of the Verapaz Union of Campesino Organisations (UVOC), received death threats because of his work in support of land legalisation and was forced to go into hiding. To ensure his safety after this, PBI accompanied Carlos and his family round the clock.
- Visits to the offices of threatened organisations, to gather and share information, and show support to those who have suffered attacks. For example, the National Council on Marginalised People (CONAPAMG) who work on access to housing and legalisation of land occupied by squatters, had its offices raided and files, diskettes and money stolen. Community leaders were threatened. PBI visited their offices once a week and accompanied threatened community leaders on visits and at demonstrations.

- One-off observation of public events such as demonstrations against the signing of the US–Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), referendums on plans for mining and construction of hydro-electric plants in San Marcos and Rio Hondo, and a homage to Coca Cola (STECSA) union leaders who have been kidnapped, disappeared or murdered.

To back up physical accompaniment we had 87 meetings with local, regional and national government officials and members of the security forces to ensure that the government took measures to prevent or respond to human rights violations. We also held 28 meetings with and received two visits from diplomats of 15 embassies. In addition, we organised two foreign delegations with representatives from Europe, North America and Australia in order to provide on-the-ground information about the human rights situation and urge appropriate action. Contact was also maintained with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Inter-American Human Rights Commission.

PBI accompaniment and international observation has contributed to enabling the following organisations to carry out their work:

Coordinating Body of Guatemalan Widows (CONAVIGUA): Recovery of historical memory, compensation for victims of the armed conflict, exhumations of massacre victims

Employees’ Union of Industria de Café Sociedad (SITINCA): Defence of trade union rights.

Friends of Lake Izabal Association: Environmental consequences of mining operations.

Indigenous Municipality of Solola & FUNDAMAYA: Accompaniment of the Mayor of the Indigenous Community of Sololá and Carlos Guarquez of Fundamaya, respect for Mayan rights, promotion of community development and defence against threats from mining operations

Madre Selva: Impact of open-cast mining and hydro-electric projects involving transnational companies

National Campesino Workers Union, MTC: Support & legal services to campesino communities.

National Council on Marginalised Peoples of Guatemala (CONAPAMG): Access to housing & legalisation of lands occupied by squatters

NB Employees’ Union NB (SITRA-NB): Women workers in maquila sector, threats by management of food processing company, illegal closure of company, struggle around redundancies

Union of Bocado Employees, SITRA, affiliated with the Guatemalan Workers Union (UNSITRAGUA): Trade union rights

Verapaz Union of Campesino Organisations (UVOC): Access to land, advice on legalisation of property, training & support for development projects.

Brussels European Office (BEO)

“I write to express my support for your consultations in Luxembourg on the crucial topic of protecting the human rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs)... Your focus on the capacities and opportunities for IDPs to increase their own protection could not be timelier or of greater interest.[...] It is with great appreciation that I take note of the role of PBI in assisting community activists through such invaluable activities as the accompaniment of displaced populations returning to their home communities... and human rights monitoring.”

Professor Walter Kälin – Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of IDPs

Key achievements

- Secured 643,453 euros from the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a major new security and protection programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the first PBI programme in Africa.
- With Frontline, published *Protection Manual for Human Rights Defenders* in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Nepali, French and Russian. The manual is based on the experiences and knowledge of hundreds of human rights defenders PBI has accompanied.
- Launched a website www.protectionline.org to provide human rights defenders with a range of tools for developing their own security strategies.
- Provided security and protection workshops in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for 88 human rights defenders and, in collaboration with PBI projects, a further 50 people in Guatemala, Mexico, Colombia and Nepal.
- Organised a seminar in Luxembourg attended by 40 representatives of IDP communities, the EU & UN, ICRC, other INGOs, and the governments of Belgium & Luxembourg.
- Contributed to an evaluation of the implementation of EU guidelines on the protection of human rights defenders, drawing on experiences in Colombia and the DRC.

Influencing EU and UN policies on Human Rights Defenders

“the best tool for protecting defenders is political action to address the... need for governments and civil society to put pressure on and act against those who day after day threaten, harass and kill defenders.”

**Protection Manual for Human Rights Defenders,
Enrique Eguren/BEO 2005**

In June 2002, the BEO organised a seminar on international field protection of IDPs. The outcome was a set of recommendations on how the EU and European states could enhance their protection. This

was followed up in 2005 when the BEO and PBI Luxembourg organised a follow-up seminar attended by 45 representatives of the UN, and IDP communities in Colombia, Sudan, Chechnya, Philippines, Nepal, Uganda, and Georgia. Recommendations identified ways in which the UN, the EU, member states, and international NGOs could strengthen political and practical supports for IDPs.

Mainstreaming Protection Programme (MPP)

Through workshops, the protection manual and a website the MPP provides tools to help human rights defenders develop effective security strategies, strengthening their ability to protect themselves and others. Workshop topics include: analysing the context and actors in the conflict; evaluating threats, vulnerability and capacities; analysing security strategies in incidents of violent threat and armed attack; and dealing with fear and post-traumatic stress.

Protection Manual for Human Rights Defenders

Written by Enrique Eguren and published with Frontline, the manual supports security and protection training, helping defenders to undertake their own risk assessments and define security rules and procedures.
www.protectionline.org

Photo: J.Robert Guerra



Security training workshop in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Nepal

“The presence of internationals would help us (Dalits) be stronger. We could then internationalise the issues and use them to pressure and lobby. We are the lowest in our society. We have no choice: either we take risks or we keep being oppressed. The problems of the village only reach districts... they never reach international level.”

Dalit human rights activist

Context

In early 2005, King Gyanendra of Nepal staged a coup, seizing power purportedly to quell a decade long Maoist insurgency that had claimed thousands of lives. The main political parties resisted and after weeks of protests in April 2006, the King capitulated, returning power to Parliament. Political parties and the Maoists signed an agreement to work together and to dismantle the monarchy. However, many uncertainties remain and human rights organisations face the task of monitoring the situation, pushing for human rights initiatives, and seeking answers to deaths, disappearances and torture resulting from the conflict.

Summary of achievements

- set up the Project infrastructure, secured funding, and undertook a thorough analysis of the political situation in Nepal through thousands of hours of volunteer work
- conducted two exploratory trips to Nepal and met a wide range of local, national and international institutions and organisations to explain PBI's work and to ask human rights organisations what PBI could do to provide protection and enable them to work with greater security
- established collaborative relationships with members of the diplomatic community, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and international organisations including the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International.

Protection workshops and followup

A series of workshops was conducted by the Brussels European Office (BEO) in partnership with PBI-Nepal and supported by the International Commission of Jurists. Ninety-seven human rights defenders attended workshops in Kathmandu, Biratnagar, Pokhara, and Nepalgunj. This was followed up with a “Training of Trainers” in Kathmandu.

Workshop feedback from human rights defender Rajendra Pokhrel was typical: he felt that the workshops had boosted his confidence in facing the security forces, and managing IT security.

Adapting to the unexpected

PBI returned to Nepal in January 2006 to submit documents for a formal registration with the government. However, King Gyanendra had tightened his grip on the country, leading to widespread protests, and arrests of human rights defenders, journalists and politicians. The PBI team coordinated strategies to protect human rights defenders, and provided a protective presence at a jointly operated coordination point for local human rights monitoring teams. PBI also provided international observation for local human rights activists who were monitoring demonstrations, detentions and investigating incidents.

Looking to the future

The consultations clearly demonstrate that a PBI presence would give human rights defenders greater confidence, enhance their security and help internationalise their situation. The Nepal Project and the BEO have developed a joint strategy, which will combine PBI's strengths of international protective presence and complement this with protection workshops. This collaboration, beginning in late 2006, will provide a holistic strategy for protection for local organisations.



PBI volunteer Jenny Brav with Jagat Biswokarma (Dalit Human Rights Organisation), and Lal Prasad Sharma (Federation of Nepalese Journalists) on a river crossing in Myagdi District, Eastern Nepal. Jenny, together with Andrew Miller, undertook the trip to understand the pressures faced by human rights groups including Dalit, ethnic groups, and women's rights activists, and to get feedback on the protection workshops and the role that PBI could play.

Case study

Support Network Activation Peace Community of San José de Apartadó, Colombia

PBI has accompanied the Community since it was founded in 1997 as the first community in Colombia to declare itself a Peace Community committed to remaining outside conflicts and developing its own collective life and work. However, it has suffered constant and severe harassment from all armed actors and the murder of 130 of its members. In February 2005 community leader Luis Eduardo Guerra was brutally massacred along with seven other people, four of them children. According to the testimonies of the Community evidence implicated the XVII brigade of the Colombian army. PBI immediately activated its Support Network inside and outside Colombia to demand justice for the Community and to prevent further attacks. This activation illustrates PBI's unique capacity, in collaboration with other organisations, to exert pressure at all levels of the chain of authority from the local to the international.

In the face of Colombian government accusations PBI issued a public statement urging protection for the Community and the Colombian organisations that accompany them, calling for an investigation into the massacre and reiterating PBI's accompaniment commitment.

In Colombia, PBI had meetings with embassies, the European Union, the regional human rights ombudsperson, and UN bodies. We succeeded in pressuring for the case to be taken up by a national commission investigating cases of impunity with the involvement of the UN High Commissioner's Office. Representatives of ten embassies visited the Community and the case received broad coverage in national and international media. PBI played a significant role in counteracting government accusations and building support internationally for the Community.

In the USA, PBI activated both the grass roots Emergency Response Network of 2,200 supporters and the high level

Support Network with special emphasis on obtaining a government political response and to prevent future attacks on Community members. Thirty-two members of Congress sent a letter to President Uribe expressing grave concern for the safety of the Community, urging the President to ensure their safety, and to bring the perpetrators to justice. Working with other NGOs, PBI organised the following: meetings with key figures in the US Department of State (DOS); a public meeting and vigil; sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice calling for specific actions to protect the community, and asking the DOS to withhold certification of military aid until there was an effective impartial investigation into the massacre. In July, twenty-two Senators sent a letter to Secretary Rice asking the DOS to refrain from certifying military aid until the Government showed progress in a series of human rights cases, including the San José massacre. The DOS delayed certifying military assistance until early August, which brought strong political pressure on the Colombian Government to show progress in resolving this and other cases.

In Canada, as a result of PBI efforts in coordination with other organisations, 28 Canadian parliamentarians sent a letter to President Uribe. In addition, PBI organised a speaker tour of a returned volunteer who spoke to over 600 people in ten cities.

In Europe 65 Members of the European Parliament expressed their solidarity with the Community. The case received particular attention at the UN Commission on Human Rights 61st session through interventions by a Community member and representatives of the EU, Switzerland and Canada. The case was highlighted in the EU 2005 human rights report. In February 2006, to ensure continued pressure, PBI and Father Javier Giraldo, who accompanies the Community, met a delegation of MEPs.



Sign at the entrance to the Peace Community reads: The Community freely commits to participating in communal work, to saying no to injustice and impunity, to not participating in wars directly or indirectly or carrying arms. Nor do we manipulate or deliver information to any party.

Field volunteers

“Many communities like Carcarica might have ceased to exist without accompaniment... your work has been a deterrent which translates into a means of protecting our communities.”

Marcos Velasco, CAVIDA

PBI accompaniment extends the boundaries of what is referred to as the ‘international community’ beyond governments, the UN, and humanitarian agencies. PBI volunteers are a bridge between threatened local activists and the outside world, and also between their home communities and the global struggle for peace and human rights. The protection and moral support that peace and human rights activists get from physical accompaniment is directly related to the strength of the global solidarity network for human rights. Volunteers represent this network not only when they are in the field but also when they return home.

- Volunteers who served on PBI projects in 2005: 152
- Average number of volunteers in the field at any time: 67
- Volunteers were from the following 26 countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Poland,

Portugal, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USA.

- Minimum time volunteers spent in the field: 1 year

Why I became a PBI volunteer and what I learnt

Paul Mukerji

I joined the Colombia Project to put my principles of nonviolence into practice, to support people who are nonviolently seeking the same human rights that I take for granted, to do something that provides me with job satisfaction and to learn from others how to bring about nonviolent change.

Being a PBI volunteer has enabled me to help and learn from other people, and to develop a bond with like-minded people from different parts of the world. I have a much deeper understanding of the causes of conflict in Colombia and also of the possible solutions. I have also learned about the important role the UK and the EU can play in improving or worsening the situation.

A day in the life of volunteer Maira Puertas, Urabá, Colombia



Maira is a volunteer on an eight-person team accompanying communities that have been displaced, or have returned home after being displaced and suffer constant threats and harassment.

‘The alarm goes off at 7am. After a shower I begin my phone calls. I’ll be on my own in the office today because my fellow team members are doing accompaniments. A peculiarity of the Urabá team is that we are only together in the PBI house a couple of days a month. Volunteers spend their time with the two peace communities that we accompany.

First, I call the police and the army to inform them that we’ll be travelling along the Atrato River and ask them for information on the security situation. This is part of our policy of transparency and visibility. I note the calls and then finish writing a report of an accompaniment the previous day and send it to the other PBI sub-teams in Colombia, to the Project Office in London and our regional representatives in the US, Canada, and Brussels.

The phone rings... it’s the two volunteers on a 12-hour river journey asking for the information on the security situation that I got from the police and the military. ‘Everything’s fine.’ I tell them. Generally there isn’t any fighting on this particularly route; if there is, we cancel the trip.

The door bell rings, and in comes one of the coordinators of the Communities for Self Determination, Life & Dignity (CAVIDA) who tells me what’s going on in the community and the day’s news stories. The phone rings again: it’s an accompaniment request from the Peace Community to go and fetch one of their members from the airport and accompany them to the Community... and so the day goes on.

Financial Report 2005*

Summary statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005 USD	2004 USD
Incoming resources		
Donations from PBI Country Groups and Grants	2,534,291	2,787,922
Individual donations	24,368	25,689
Other incoming resources	140,964	49,046
Interest receivable	4,099	2,102
	2,703,722	2,864,759
Resources expended		
Field projects:		
Colombia	1,533,349	1,598,717
Guatemala	175,439	167,730
Indonesia	611,490	638,282
Mexico	140,971	272,854
Nepal	107,587	
International Secretariat	181,225	211,017
Other expenses	1,831	2,499
	2,751,892	2,891,099
Net incoming resources for the year	(48,170)	(26,340)
Funds brought forward	508,139	534,479
Funds carried forward	459,969	508,139

Summary Balance Sheet at 31 December 2005

	2005 USD	2004 USD
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets	47,400	71,435
Current assets		
Debtors	282,898	311,576
Cash at bank and in hand	539,795	851,825
	822,693	1,163,401
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	410,124	726,697
Net current assets	412,569	436,704
Net assets	459,969	508,139
<i>Represented by</i>		
Project funds	314,589	402,974
International Secretariat	145,380	105,165
	459,969	508,139

International Council Statement

These summary accounts are not the statutory accounts but a summary of the information that appears in the full financial statements of Peace Brigades International, which have been subjected to an independent audit and an unqualified report. The International Council approved the full financial statements on 11 December 2006.

The Financial Summary may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the organisation. For further information the full Financial Statements including the auditor's report may be obtained from the PBI website: www.peacebrigades.org or from the PBI International Office in London.

Auditor's Statement on the Summary Accounts

We have examined the summary accounts set alongside.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Auditors

The Financial Summary is the responsibility of the PBI International Council. It is our responsibility to report to you on their consistency with the full accounts. Our report on the full accounts of Peace Brigades International includes information on the responsibilities of the International Council and the Auditor relating to the preparation and audit of the accounts and on the basis of our opinion of the accounts.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 1999/6 'The auditors' statement on the summary financial statements' issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom.

Opinion

In our opinion the summary accounts are consistent with the full accounts of Peace Brigades International for the year ended 31 December 2005.

*Critchleys, Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditors
December 2006*

* These financial statements do not include the accounts of PBI Country Groups. While recognition by PBI and use of the PBI name depends on each Country Group's adherence to PBI principles, PBI Country Groups are independent bodies that determine their own structure and are legally responsible for their own actions. Similarly, the PBI Brussels European Office (BEO) was an independent legal and financial entity in 2005 and is not included in these statements, although the BEO is now merging with PBI and will be included in the 2006 audit. For information on the accounts of Country Groups and the BEO see back cover for contact details.

Thanks to...

PBI would like to thank all those who have made our work possible through contributing their time, energy and funds:

Institutional donors

ACCD (Agencia Catalana para Cooperación y Desarrollo); Acroplan; AECI (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional); Aktionsgemeinschaft Dienste für den Frieden (AGDF); Aktion Selbstbesteuerung; Albania Friends Meeting; Amnesty International; Amnesty International Netherlands; Anne Slade Frey Charitable Trust; Appleton Foundation; Appletree Fund; Ausschuß für entwicklungsbezogene Bildung und Publizistik; Australian Embassy, Mexico; Auswärtiges Amt; Ayuntamientos de Aguilar, Camargo, Vitoria, Santander y Valladolid; Belgian Government; Belgian Embassy, Indonesia; British Embassy, Indonesia; Broederlijk Delen Belgica; Bromley Trust; Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend; Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ); Cafod; Canadian Auto Workers (CAW); Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); Cambridge Friends Meeting; CarEth Foundation; Catalan Cooperation Agency; Chace Fund of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; Christian Aid; Church of the Epiphany, CMC; Cities of Lausanne, Plan des Ouates, De Peilz, Toureine Welt, Hinwil; Congregation of Saint Basil; DCI; Diakonia Suecia; Diakonisches Werk; Embassy of Australia (Mexico); Ecumenical group FEDEVACO; Evangelical churches of Baden, Bern-Jura-Solothurn, Bern-Paulus, Dinhard, Gais, Gsteig-Interlaken, Herrliberg, Hinwil, Langnau, Muri-Guemlingen, Muttenz, Nidau, Oetwil, Pratteln-August, Tablat, Wallisellen, Winterthur, Fribourg; Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED); Evangelische Kirche Kurhessen-Waldeck; Evangelische Landeskirche, Hannover; Fons Catala; Fons Mallorqui; Foundation Non-violence; French Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Fund for Nonviolence; Gandhian Foundation; Gobierno de Cantabria; Gobierno de Navarra/Mugarik Gabe; ICCO; "I Do" Foundation; Intermon Oxfam; International Commission of Jurists; Inwent; Irish Aid; Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust; Katholischer Fond Eine-Welt-Kooperation; Katholisches Bistum Hildesheim; Kerkinactie (KIA); Misereor; Metanoia Peace Community; Network for Social Change; Norddeutsche Stiftung für Umwelt & Entwicklung; Nordelbisches Missionszentrum; Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Open Society Institute; Oxfam GB; Peacefund Canada; Peaceworkers USA; Polden Puckham Charitable Trust; Primate's World Relief Development Fund; Prisoner of Conscience Appeal Fund; Project Counseling Service (PCS); Quaker Peace & Social Witness; Radley Charitable Trust; Rowan Charitable Trust; Samuel Rogers Memorial Trust; Samuel Rubin Foundation; Shoemaker Fund; Sigrid Rausing Trust; Sisters of St. Joseph, Diocese of London, Ontario; Society of Friends (Switzerland); Solidaire Solidaridad; Stiftung Umverteilen!; St. John Vianney Congregation; Swiss state; The Funding Network; Tides Foundation; Trocaire; Umweltministerium Schleswig-Holstein; Unbeschulte Karmeliten; Valdesian Church; Vereinigte Evangelische Mission – e.V. Landeskirchen Rheinland, Westfalen und Hessen-Nassau; Yellow Springs Friends Meeting; Zentrum für Entwicklungsbezogene Bildung, Stuttgart

Individuals

Gina Amatangelo; Delight W. Dodyck; Michael Ebeling; Stefanie Flögel; Erika Geyger; Heike Kammer; Elisabeth Kressner; Joseph S. Levinger; Harold and Kyong Lischner; Joe Morton; Deb Sawyer; Dirk Sprenger; Diane Steingart; Herman Warsh and Maryanne Mott; Irmingard Weise; Heinke and Johannes Wendt; Jonathan Woodbridge

PBI Publications

An essential element of our accompaniment strategy is rigorous and nonpartisan analysis of the political situation as it affects the organisations and communities that we accompany. Our publications also contain information on the specific threats to human rights and the pressure authorities can exert to prevent human rights abuses. Our permanent presence in the countries where we have projects gives PBI unique access to this information.

Book

Unarmed Bodyguards: International Accompaniment for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders by Liam Mahony & Enrique Eguren, 1997. Theoretical analysis of the dissuasive effect of accompaniment and its practical application by PBI. Available in English, German and Spanish.

Mexico, Guatemala and Colombia Projects

Information Packet (PIM): a monthly summary of news about human rights, the work of civil society organisations and PBI Projects, distributed to national and international organisations, embassies and members of Support Networks.

Mexico and Guatemala Projects

Project Bulletin: with articles on human rights, organisations that PBI accompanies and the work of PBI, distributed through PBI country groups to organisations, individuals and the members of Support Networks.

Colombia and Guatemala Projects

Focos de Interés: early warning bulletins to raise the profile of particular cases, distributed to alert the Project Support Network to the possibility of an activation.

Indonesia Project

Bi-weekly update: distributed to local NGOs, embassies and government contacts, and externally through PBI country groups to Indonesia-focused INGOs and UN Agencies.

Country group publications

Country groups publish regular news bulletins for their members and supporters. See back page for contact details.

Brussels European Office

See page 14.

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